

APPENDIX B

The Plan Maintenance and Update Process

Background

ABAG received funding for the preparation of this multi-jurisdictional plan from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Competitive (PDM-C) program in mid-April 2004. While cities and counties must complete the initial plan by May 1, 2005 to be eligible for the 05 PDM-C program, the ABAG funding is for a two-year project. Thus, this initial Local Hazard Mitigation Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area must be viewed in this unique context.

Preparation Schedule for the "Interim" and "Comprehensive" Plan

Our goal is to have an "interim" plan developed, adopted by many local governments, and approved by OES and FEMA by March 17, 2005. This "interim" plan will meet all of the minimum requirements of a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. However, it will be missing several plan pieces that are in the regulations defining the plan contents with the language that the plan "should" contain versus the plan "shall" contain these items. These pieces are typically related to loss estimation and the clear tie between risk and mitigation impacts.

Our goal is to have a "comprehensive" plan by April 1, 2006 near the end of the 24-month grant. *This complete plan will include much more extensive loss estimation data, clear ties between risk assessment data and mitigation strategies, and additional information on the mitigation strategies, including criteria for measuring progress toward the goal of disaster resistance.*

Integration into Existing Planning Mechanisms

Typically, cities and counties have three major mechanisms for integrating the programs and policies identified in this plan: the Safety Element of their local General Plan, the requirements for project review of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and on-going capital improvement programs. The components of some of these other programs are identified as "Existing Programs" in the Annex of each participating local government. In addition, the recommendation of this overall plan is for local governments to adopt the specific mitigation strategies identified as an "Implementation Appendix" of their Safety Element.

The situation for special districts and other governmental agencies is slightly different. However, the recommendation of this overall plan is to identify a variety of funding sources and implementation mechanisms for the higher priority mitigation strategies identified in each local government's annex.

Future Updates of This Plan

ABAG will continue to update this plan over time. The plan will be updated at least every five years, as required by DMA 2000. However, it will be updated more frequently as time and money allow. ABAG's Planning Department will take the lead in updating hazard mapping and

risk information, while participating local governments will take the lead in developing and updating mitigation goals and strategies.

For example, ABAG will continue to update its geographic information system based on new information from state and federal agencies, as well as from research projects conducted by ABAG and others. The lead in this effort at ABAG will be the Planning Department, specifically the Earthquake and Hazards Program.

When an update occurs, participating local governments will be notified of the planned update and encouraged to provide comments. If changes are significant (that is, involve more than minor changes to, for example, the hazard mapping), all participating local governments will be involved in any needed updates in mitigation strategies and all will be asked to submit another resolution approving the plan.

In addition, public participation will be encouraged at specific issue-oriented workshops and forums as time and funding allow. As at the numerous workshops and forums held during the development of this initial plan, a wide variety of participation will be encouraged, including:

- ◆ local and state government staff and elected officials,
- ◆ private engineers, construction contractors, financial experts, and business owners,
- ◆ professional organizations,
- ◆ university professors, and
- ◆ nonprofits.

If ABAG is unwilling or unable to act as the lead agency in the multi-jurisdictional effort, participating local governments will contact each County's Office of Emergency Services. Counties should then work together to identify another regional forum for developing a multi-jurisdictional plan. Unlike in other metropolitan areas of the country, the Bay Area has no single dominant city or county. Many special districts, including BART, MTC, AC Transit, and the East Bay Regional Park District also have multi-county service areas. Thus, although counties could be used as lead agencies in updating the plan, this option is not as appropriate as in other areas of the country.